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agitating said first reservoir tube to mix said sample with said sample denaturing solution under conditions for denaturing said sample and binding said DNA or RNA to said sample collection assembly, thereby binding said DNA or said RNA to said sample collection assembly;

removing said wand from said first reservoir tube and inserting said wand into a second reservoir tube[;], said second reservoir tube containing a wash buffer;

securely and sealingly closing said second reservoir tube with said cap of said wand with said shaft and said sample collection assembly inside said second reservoir tube;

agitating said second reservoir tube to mix said sample with said wash buffer;

removing said wand from said second reservoir tube and inserting said wand into a third reservoir tube[;], said third reservoir tube containing an elution buffer;

incubating said third reservoir tube; and

recovering purified DNA or RNA from said third reservoir tube.

REMARKS

The first page of the specification has been amended to reflect priority information.

Claim 31 has been amended to reflect that the sample is placed in a first reservoir tube and is subjected to a "sample" denaturing solution. A sample may be a blood or urine sample or the like (page 10, lines 12-20). The sample denaturing solution is intended to release the nucleic acids from the cells. By this, the denaturing solution reduces the complexity of the sample and frees the nucleic acids for binding to the solid support, which in this invention, is a sample collection assembly.

As amended, claim 31 sets forth that the sample is agitated to mix the sample with the denaturing solution under conditions for denaturing the sample and binding the DNA or RNA to the sample collection assembly, thereby binding DNA or the RNA to the sample collection assembly.

The conditions will vary depending on the nature of the sample type and the type of solid matrix used for capturing the nucleic acids. A modification of the denaturing

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